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quick facts on...

Linking Land and Water Planning

10-year Water Supply Facilities Workplans

SEPTEMBER 2003

The South Florida Water Management District

is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts.

Our Mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems, and water supply.

With freshwater demands increasing to meet the needs of a booming population, the 2002 Florida Legislature strengthened the coordination of water supply and land use planning. For the first time, a statutory linkage was created between the state's five water management districts' regional water supply plans and local government comprehensive plans throughout the state. Each local government that is responsible for its own water supply must now include, in its comprehensive plan's potable water element, a 10-year workplan for building water supply facilities necessary to serve existing and new development. Taking into consideration the regional water supply plan efforts of the water management districts, these workplans must project future water supply demands and identify the water supply sources available to meet those demands. The workplans will also include schedules for permitting, constructing and operating needed water supply facilities, together with any necessary amendments to a local government's comprehensive plan five-year schedule of capital improvements to provide those water supply facility needs.

When are the workplans due?

All local governments within the South Florida Water Management that are responsible for all, or a portion of, their water supply must prepare and adopt a minimum 10-year water supply facilities workplan into their comprehensive plans by **January 1, 2005**, or their evaluation and appraisal report (EAR) due date, whichever occurs first.

Can you tell me more about the workplan pilot projects?

In early 2003, the Department of Community Affairs funded one local government workplan

pilot project in each of the five water management districts. These pilot projects resulted in the development of five local government models of the 10-year water supply facilities workplan and their associated comprehensive plan amendments. The pilot project communities included Palm Beach County, Okaloosa County, the City of Cocoa, Lake City and the City of Venice.

The South Florida Water Management District worked closely with Palm Beach County to assist in the development of its large urban county workplan model. The final pilot project addressed both its 10-year facility needs and a longer planning period, becoming a 20-year water supply facilities workplan.

The Palm Beach County pilot workplan, completed in April, consists of three primary components:

1. **Facility Inventory** - Addresses utility service areas, current water supply demands, current permits, current facilities and treatment technologies.
2. **Facility Capacity Analysis** – Addresses the demands for the next 20 years, the South Florida Water Management District's Lower East Coast Regional Water Supply Plan, likely available sources, and the 20-year water supply facilities workplan.
3. **Draft Comprehensive Plan Amendments** – Addresses the actual language for revisions to the Palm Beach County comprehensive plan to comply with the new statutory requirements to both prepare a minimum 10-year water supply facilities workplan and to take into consideration the appropriate regional water supply plan of the water management district.

The Palm Beach County pilot workplan model can be accessed at www.sfwmd.gov/org/wsd/ear/index.html or www.pbcgov.com/pzb/new/planning/ear/pilot_project.htm

Where can I get help with this effort?

The Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has prepared a set of informal guidelines to assist local governments in the preparation of their 10-year water supply facilities workplans. These guidelines address when to adopt the workplan, how to prepare the workplan, and what information to include in the workplan.

The guidelines can be found on the DCA Water Supply Planning web page www.dca.state.fl.us or the South Florida Water Management District's EAR technical assistance web page www.sfwmd.gov/org/wsd/ear/index.html.

These web sites also provide an abundance of general and technical information regarding regional water supply plans and 10-year water supply facilities workplans. Additionally, both agencies have designated specific agency staff to assist local governments with these efforts:

Department of Community Affairs

For the South Florida Water Management District Area:

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South Florida Water Management District

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Contact lists for assistance from the other four water management districts can be found on the DCA Water Supply Planning web page www.dca.state.fl.us

Florida's Water
It's Worth Saving



The Palm Beach County workplan pilot project is one of the five local government models of the 10-year Water Supply Facilities workplan.



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